

This is the first update for Choo's puppies. Every Sunday night I will take pictures of the puppies and give an update about what has happened and what they are learning.

Karen Carpenter of First State Cotons owns AKC CH/ UKC GRCH Neshua Pebbly Bottom (Choo) I own the Sire(s) of this particular litter. Choo is here being bred, and I have the privilege of whelping and raising the puppies in my home, instead of sending Choo back to Karen in Delaware. Since Karen is the "owner" of this litter, she is entitled to giving the registration names to the puppies. As the owner of First State Cotons in Delaware, Karen has a theme. Delaware was the "First State" to ratify the Constitution. Since then, every litter Karen has whelped has been in the order of when individual States ratified the Constitution. This litter happened to be New York. With 5 puppies being born, of course they were named after the 5 Boroughs of New York. Although these will be the "registered names" recognized by AKC, you may call your puppy anything you like. For example Neshua Pebbly Bottom of First State is Choo. Legacy's DLH Shelby Cobra is Shelby. You don't even have to have the "call name" in the registered name. So start thinking of names for your puppy.

Choo's puppies were born June 4, 2019 between 8:30 and 11:00 p.m. There was 1 girl and 4 boys. Two of the boys have body splashes, 1 boy has black on the inside of the ear. Personalities are starting to come out even at 5 days old.

**First State The Bronx Gentleman Jack** (Full Bodied Tri) Jack is the biggest puppy. As of today he weighs 10.5 ounces. Because he is large, he just shoves everyone to the side to get his portion of the milk. He is a nice boy. While we are doing the stimulation, he is a bit tense. To me this shows that there is definitely some dominance there. It is not aggression, it is just confidence and assertiveness. He is only 5 days old, and personalities go through many changes.

**First State Brooklyn Hot Knight** (Minimal Tri) Opi is going to be the most outgoing puppy. He is already the most vocal. At 3 days old, he was already trying to push himself around on his back legs. He is very mobile, and has an opinion about everything! He will be a fun puppy, as long as his person is consistent in training. I believe he will be my smartest puppy taking after his Mama.

**First State Manhattan Duke** (White with black in the ears) Duke was the first puppy born. Choo asked to go potty around 8:20 p.m. Tuesday night. I let her out with one of my males. Twenty minutes later, I opened the door to let her back inside. I noticed some one had dug in my large flower pot. I was a bit annoyed, since the dogs never dig in my flowers. Looked inside to discover a puppy! Choo had a puppy outside, dug a hole and put the puppy in it!. Duke still had his placenta attached, and he was covered in dirt. I brought him inside, and cleaned him up. I kept cleaning the poor boy's ears until I realized they were actually black, not dirty. We nick named him "pot puppy". He is very docile and seems to be okay with being put on his back or side, even after rigorous cleanings!

**First State Victoria Staten Isle** (All White) Victor is my most quiet male, at this time. Again these puppies are only 5 days old, and puppies personalities rapidly change. He is also my smallest male. He weighs just over 9 ounces. He is regularly picked up and carried around. There

is no fuss with him. It is just as if he is already bossed by his bigger brothers, so why bother changing. It will be interesting to see how his personality develops once his are opened.

**First State Queens Legacy** (All White) Queen is our only girl. She is very petite. Because of her brutish brothers, I am keeping an eye on her to make sure she is getting all the nutrients she needs. She is gaining weight and is perfectly healthy, but I would like to see her gain a little bit faster. When she latches on to mom she forgets what she is doing and yawns or stops nursing. At that time, the nipple falls out of her mouth and she has to fumble for it. I will be teaching her to grab and hold from now on!

Because the puppies are so young, we have not done too much with them. On Friday everyone had their dewclaws removed. Many people ask about dewclaws and why remove them. Dewclaws are small nails on the ankle (stifle) of the puppy. Many times these nails are only held to the ankle by flaps of skin. As the puppies get older and start running around, there is a danger of the dewclaws becoming snagged and ripping off. It is extremely painful for the dog if this happens. Agility people, herding people and those who are training dogs for timed events will often leave dewclaws on the dog. As a dog is running, they can corner faster since the claw digs into the dirt allowing for a tighter faster turn. I find the dewclaws are more of a nuisance. All the puppies had front dewclaws. Opi had one rear dewclaw.

On Sunday, we had our first visitors. Normally I do not allow visitors to come before 4 weeks, but they were friends of ours who happened to be in the area. Attached is a picture of Gracyn, who is 14 holding Victor.

For those who are wondering about May Day. She went to the Vet on Friday. We saw 3 healthy fully developed puppies with heartbeats. The vet was extremely surprised that May was still pregnant. We are on puppy watch. Tomorrow she will go back to the vet for another fetal exam. If she hasn't had her puppies by Wednesday, she will have a C-section. I will keep everyone posted.